

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01  
SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00  
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R 261104Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9832  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L 6564

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ECON, EGEN, UNCTAD, GH  
SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: COMMODITIES - UNCTAD COMMON FUND  
MEETING, NOVEMBER 7 - DECEMBER 2: GHANAIAV VIEWS

REF: (A) STATE 191312; (B) STATE 192330; (C) STATE 179166  
(D) ACCRA 6216 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: GOG HAS ESTABLISHED AN INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE AND IS MAKING MORE INTENSIVE PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND COMMON FUND CONFERENCE THAN FOR THE FIRST, WHERE IT MERELY REITERATED WITH G-77 COLLEAGUES, THE POSITIONS TAKEN AT UNCTAD IV. ALSO, IN CONTRAST TO THE FIRST CONFERENCE, GOG PLANS TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE NOVEMBER CONFERENCE BY ACCRA-BASED OFFICIALS IN ADDITION TO GENEVA MISSION OFFICERS. WE BELIEVE THAT A ONE-WORKING DAY VISIT BY A US EXPERT ON COMMON FUND MATTERS COULD INFLUENCE GOG THINKING. END SUMMARY.

2. CHARGE AND ECON COUNSELOR DISCUSSED COMMON FUND ISSUES, PER REFTEL A, WITH AMBASSADOR RICHARD AKWEI, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC MATTERS, MINISTRY  
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OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) ON AUGUST 23, AND WITH JOSEPH CLELAND, DIRECTOR ECONOMIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, MFS, AUGUST 24. SUBJECT WAS COVERED IN DETAIL WITH CLELAND, WHO IS OFFICER DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

3. AFTER LISTENING TO TALKING POINTS (PARA 5, REFTEL A), SUPPLEMENTED BY BRIEF GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF USG PREPARA-

TIONS FOR NOVEMBER COMMON FUND MEETING (REFTEL C), CLELAND PROVIDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION (SUPPLEMENTED BY INFORMATION FROM AKWEI).

4. FIRST NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE (MARCH 7 TO APRIL 1):  
GOG MADE FEW INDEPENDENT PREPARATIONS FOR THIS CONFERENCE, CONTENTING ITSELF WITH STAYING WITH G-77 POSITION ON COMMON FUND AS WORKED OUT BY G-77 AT MANILA AND PRESENTED AT UNCTAD IV. NO GOG REPRESENTATIVES WERE SENT FROM ACCRA; FIRST CONFERENCE WAS HANDLED BY "LARGE STAFF" IN GENEVA.

5. SECOND NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE (NOVEMBER 7 TO DECEMBER 2;  
(A) THE GOG HAS FORMED AN INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE, WITH REPRESENTATION FROM ALL GOG MINISTRIES AND BODIES CONCERNED WITH SPECIFIC COMMODITIES AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. COMMITTEE IS HEADED BY SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF TRADE, WHICH IS PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR DECISIONS ON UNCTAD ISSUES, AND WHICH HAS AT LEAST ONE OFFICER IN GHANAIAN MISSION IN GENEVA. OTHER GOG ENTITIES REPRESENTED INCLUDE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, COCOA AFFAIRS, AGRICULTURE, ECONOMIC PLANNING AND SMALLER GOG BODIES CONCERNED WITH SPECIFIC COMMODITIES, IDENTIFIED ON UNCTAD LIST OF EIGHTEEN OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO GHANA. AFTER COCOA, WHICH IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE, THESE ARE (IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE): TROPICAL TIMBER, BAUXITE, COFFEE AND COTTON.  
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(B) THIS INTERMINISTERIAL BODY IS TO RECOMMEND GOG POSITIONS TO THE RULING SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL, THROUGH THE COMMISSIONER (I.E., MINISTER) FOR TRADE AND TOURISM, FOR APPROVAL IN TIME FOR THE OCTOBER AFRICAN GROUP (OF THE GROUP OF 77) MEETING, TO BE HELD IN ADDIS ABABA.

(C) GHANA WILL BE SENDING OFFICIALS FROM ACCRA TO THE SECOND NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE SENIOR TRADE MINISTRY OFFICER.

(D) GHANA IS NOT GOING TO BRING VIEWS TO THE NOVEMBER CONFERENCE WHICH DIFFER IN ANY IMPORTANT RESPECT FROM THOSE OF G-77. CLELAND EMPHASIZED THAT GHANA HOPES TO INFLUENCE THE AFRICAN GROUP'S POSITION, PARTICULARLY ON COMMODITIES OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO GHANA, AND THROUGH THE AFRICAN GROUP, THE G-77. BUT ONCE THAT PROCESS IS COMPLETE, GHANA WILL TAKE NO POSITION INDEPENDENTLY OF G-77 (SEE ALSO REFTEL D).

6. GROUP OF 33. GHANA IS MEMBER OF G-33 (REFTEL B), BUT WE ARE LESS CLEAR ON THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN CURRENT GOG

PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE AND GOG POSITIONS WITHIN G-33. WE ASSUME THAT THERE IS ONLY MODEST INPUT BY GHANA INTO THE G-33 DELIBERATIONS AT THIS STAGE.

7. COMMON FUND AND INTERNATIONAL COCOA AGREEMENT. CLELAND NOTED THAT THE GOG INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE IS EXAMINING POSSIBLE WAYS OF RELATING INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, SPECIFICALLY THE COCOA AGREEMENT, TO THE RESOURCES TO BE AVAILABLE FROM THE PROPOSED COMMON FUND AND SPOKE OF OBTAINING SUCH FUNDS ON A "CALLABLE BASIS."

8. GOG INSTRUCTIONS TO ITS DELEGATION. BOTH AKWEI AND CLELAND TELL US THAT THE GOG HAS EASY TELETYPE COMMUNICATIONS TO ITS GENEVA MISSION AND SENDS INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVELY FREQUENTLY.

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TIONS TO ITS GENEVA MISSION AND SENDS INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVELY FREQUENTLY.

9. USG VISIT ON COMMON FUND: ON BASIS OF ABOVE INFORMATION, WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE A BRIEF (ONE WORKING DAY) VISIT BY A USG EXPERT ON THE COMMON FUND (PARA 3, C, REFTEL A), IF SUCH EXPERT WERE VISITING OTHER WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES. GHANA IS MAKING SPECIAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND CONFERENCE AND AS A MINIMUM WOULD BE INTERESTED IN HEARING US VIEWS. TO HAVE ANY INFLUENCE, HOWEVER, SUCH A US EXPERT WOULD HAVE TO STOP HERE BEFORE END SEPTEMBER AT THE LATEST.  
HOLMES

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